

us to catch a man who had killed someone with a car bomb. Law enforcement officials believe that of the more than 13,000 bombing crimes in the last 5 years, as many as 30 percent could have been solved faster with taggants.

Yet the Republicans in Congress continue to oppose this commonsense initiative. Why? Because the Washington gun lobby told them to. One Republican congressman had another reason, an unbelievable one. He actually told his own committee chairman, "I trust Hamas more than my own Government." Well, I don't. And I don't think most Americans or most Members of Congress in either party do.

I urge Congress to change course. Put the national interest before the special interests. Give law enforcement the ability to trace these explosives using bombs that kill Americans.

We know acts of terror are no match for the human spirit. In the last year, the people of Oklahoma City have proved this. We know we can heal from terrorism. But now we must do even more to stop it before it happens. A strong anti-terrorism bill will help us to do just that. And that's why it must be the law of the land.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 6:05 p.m. on April 12 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on April 13.

Exchange With Reporters in Anchorage, Alaska

April 15, 1996

President's Visit to Korea

Q. [*The exchange is joined in progress.*]—your stop in Korea?

The President. Have a talk with President Kim and we'll have some things to say there about the Korean situation. It's much better than it was 3 years ago when I took office in terms of trying to minimize the North Korean nuclear problem, which was a big security problem for the United States.

And then I'm going on to Japan to reaffirm the security partnership we have with the Japanese and Asia, and then on to Russia to deal with the problems of nuclear safety.

We've made a lot of progress in the last 3 years; we've got a lot to do. We have a big job to get a comprehensive test ban treaty passed, and then to deal with the aftermath of the cold war, to deal with all of those nuclear materials that are out there. We want to make sure that they don't fall into the wrong hands and someday get put to the wrong uses. And I'm glad to be back in Alaska, even at 2 a.m. in the morning, and I thank you for coming out. I'm sorry that you all had to stay up so late.

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Q. Mr. President, one of the big questions concerning a lot of Alaskans is the issue of oil drilling in ANWR. Do you think there is, in the near future, any possibility of doing that environmentally sensitive development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge?

The President. I don't know. I received your congressional delegation and I listened to what they had to say, and we have continued to work not only in Alaska, but all across America on the whole issue of reconciling development and the environment, and we continue to look for ways to do it. But you know, right now the more imminent issue as Congress comes back is whether we can pass a budget for the Interior Department that deals with the question of the Tongass. And that is the one I think that concerns Alaska that will be up on the plate in the next couple of weeks, and we've worked very hard out here to try to deal with the legitimate interests of the small loggers and trying to do some work there while preserving the old-growth trees that are virtually irreplaceable. So I'm hoping that that can be worked out. We've worked very, very hard on it, and we'll just take these issues as they come and see what happens.

President's Visit to Korea

Q. President Clinton, looking at your stop in Korea, what do you hope to accomplish there with President Kim?

The President. Well, we're doing a lot of work on that. I want to wait until I see President Kim and make a definitive announcement of any kind. But we are essentially continuing on the path of a charter back in 1993. We're working on ways to not only keep the

nuclear problem under control and eventually eliminate it, but also to try to do what we can to promote an ultimate reconciliation, an end to the conflict. If that could happen, then the world would be a much safer place—the whole world, and certainly the people in Northern Asia.

NOTE: The exchange began at approximately 2 a.m. at Elmendorf Air Force Base. The press release issued by the Office of the Press Secretary did not include the complete opening question. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Kim Yong-sam of South Korea in Cheju *April 16, 1996*

Q. Good morning, sir.

The President. Good morning. Did you get some sleep?

Q. A little bit. Mr. President, do you think the start of these four-way talks could really bring peace to this peninsula? Are you encouraged that these four-way talks could lead to peace? What about the situation along the border between Israel and Lebanon; anything the United States can do to stop that fighting?

The President. We're going to answer questions, you know, after our meeting; but we're working very hard on that and we've been at it for a couple of days now, and we're doing the best we can.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:04 a.m. in the garden at the Shilla Hotel. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Exchange With Reporters During Discussions With President Kim in Cheju *April 16, 1996*

Korean Peace Process

Q. President Kim, are you excited about the opportunity for a breakthrough with the dialog between North and South Korea?

President Kim. Yes. I think that there is a possibility.

Q. And do you welcome the fact that China might participate as well?

President Kim. Well, we'll have a chance to talk about it later at the press conference.

President's Visit

Q. Mr. President, was it as pretty down on the beach as it looked from up above?

President Clinton. Yes. I felt like a honeymooner again.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:20 a.m. in the garden at the Shilla Hotel. President Kim spoke in Korean, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

The President's News Conference With President Kim in Cheju *April 16, 1996*

President Kim. Ladies and gentlemen of the press, on behalf of the people of the Republic of Korea, I would again like to extend a heartfelt welcome to President and Mrs. Bill Clinton who are visiting our country today.

President Clinton and I have held five summit meetings since I became President of the Republic of Korea in 1993, and have worked together to steadily develop Korea-U.S. relations into a mature partnership. President Clinton's visit to Korea today will further strengthen the solid alliance between our two countries. It also offers an opportunity to reaffirm the strategic importance of our bilateral relations for the Asia-Pacific era in the 21st century.

President Clinton and I held indepth discussions for about an hour on the overall situation on the Korean Peninsula, including the recent North Korean provocations in the truce village of Panmunjom. President Clinton and I shared serious concern over the fact that North Korean authorities have recently tried to unilaterally undermine the armistice agreement and violated the agreement through military maneuvering in the joint security area. We agreed on the great importance of maintaining vigilance and strong joint Korea-U.S. defense posture in order to cope with any possible provocations swiftly and firmly. We have also agreed that